

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A seat reclining device in which a seat belt is fixed to a seat back at one side comprising:
 - a pair of upper arms mounted on the seat ~~backs~~ back;
 - a pair of lower arms fixed to a seat cushion at both sides, with ~~so as to be rotatable relative to the upper arms~~ being rotatable relative to the lower arms;
 - a pair of locking mechanisms restricting a rotation of the upper arms relative to the upper lower arms;
 - a connecting ~~mechanisms~~ mechanism unlocking both locking mechanisms;
 - an operation handle provided at one locking mechanism;
 - the other locking mechanism is being unlocked in response to operation of the operation handle through the connecting mechanism,
 - under the condition that the operation handle is operated to unlock ~~so that~~ one locking mechanism ~~can be unlocked~~, the one locking mechanism, the operation handle, the connecting mechanism and the other locking mechanism ~~can be engaged~~ are engageable with each other and to operate together, and under the condition that the one side of the seat back fixed to the seat belt is more deformed by tension of the seat belt than the other side of the seat back, any engagement among the one locking mechanism, the operation handle, the connecting mechanism

and the other locking mechanism is disengaged ~~each other~~ so that the one locking mechanism cannot operate together with the other locking mechanism.

2. (Currently Amended) A seat reclining device according to claim 1, wherein a shaft included in the locking mechanisms is provided with a convex portion and a groove portion is provided at the connecting mechanism where the shaft is inserted, or the convex portion is provided at the connecting mechanism where the shaft is inserted and the shaft included in the locking mechanism is provided with the groove portion so that a predetermined interspace ~~can be~~ is set between the convex portion and the groove portion.

3. (Currently Amended) A seat reclining device according to claim 1, wherein the connecting mechanism ~~consist of~~ comprises plural link parts, and when the one side of the seat back fixed to the seat belt is more deformed by tension of the seat belt than the other side of the seat back, any engagement is in the plural link parts is disengaged from each other with respect to one direction in which the link parts are operated.

4. (New) A seat reclining device according to claim 1, wherein each of the locking mechanisms comprises a respective shaft, each of the shafts being engaged with the connecting mechanism so that the shafts and the connecting mechanism are rotated by the operation handle, and a predetermined interspace is set between each shaft and the connecting mechanism to permit relative rotation between the connecting mechanism and each shaft, the predetermined interspace

between the shaft of the one locking mechanism and the connecting mechanism being set in an unlock direction in which the one locking mechanism is unlocked, and the predetermined interspace between the shaft of the other locking mechanism and the connecting mechanism being set in a direction which is opposite the unlock direction in which the other locking mechanism is unlocked when the both locking mechanisms are locked.

5. (New) A seat reclining device according to claim 1, wherein the one locking mechanism comprises a first shaft and the other locking mechanism comprises a second shaft, and the connecting mechanism comprises an elongated rod having opposite ends each fitted to one of the shafts, one of the rod and first shaft including convex portions and the other of the rod and first shaft including groove portions that each receive a respective one of the convex portions, and an interspace between each convex portion and the respective groove portion such that a distance between the convex portion and a facing surface of the groove portion in one rotational direction is greater than the distance between the convex portion and the facing surface of the groove portion in an opposite rotational direction.

6. (New) A seat reclining device according to claim 1, wherein each of the locking mechanisms includes a respective shaft engaged with the connecting mechanism, further comprising first convex portions provided on either the connecting mechanism or the shaft of the one locking mechanism, and first groove portions provided on the other of the connecting mechanism and the shaft of the one locking mechanism, the first convex portions being received in the first groove

portions with predetermined interspaces being set between the first convex portions and the first groove portions to permit relative rotation between the connecting mechanism and the shaft of the one locking mechanism, further comprising second convex portions provided on either the connecting mechanism or the shaft of the other locking mechanism, and second groove portions provided on the other of the connecting mechanism and the shaft of the other locking mechanism, the second convex portions being received in the second groove portions with predetermined interspaces being set between the second convex portions and the second groove portions to permit relative rotation between the connecting mechanism and the shaft of the other locking mechanism, the shafts and the connecting mechanism being rotated together by the operation handle, the predetermined interspaces between the first groove portions and the first convex portions being set in an unlock direction in which the one locking mechanism is unlocked, and the predetermined interspaces between the second groove portions and the second convex portions being set in a direction which is opposite to the unlock direction in which the other locking mechanism is unlocked when both locking mechanisms are locked.

7. (New) A seat reclining device in which a seat belt is fixed to a seat back at one side comprising:

- a pair of upper arms mounted on the seat back;
- a pair of lower arms fixed to a seat cushion at both sides, with the upper arms being rotatable relative to the lower arms;
- a pair of locking mechanisms restricting rotation of the upper arms relative to the lower arms;

an operation handle provided at one of the locking mechanisms; a connecting mechanism connected to both locking mechanisms to permit both locking members to be unlocked in response to operation of the operation handle;

under the condition that the operation handle is operated to unlock one locking mechanism, the one locking mechanism, the operation handle, the connecting mechanism and the other locking mechanism are engageable with each other to operate together, and under the condition that the one side of the seat back fixed to the seat belt is more deformed by tension of the seat belt than the other side of the seat back, any engagement among the one locking mechanism, the operation handle, the connecting mechanism and the other locking mechanism is disengaged so that the one locking mechanism cannot operate together with the other locking mechanism.

8. (New) A seat reclining device according to claim 7, wherein the connecting mechanism includes a connecting rod connected to both locking mechanisms.

9. (New) A seat reclining device in which a seat belt is fixed to a seat back at one side comprising:

a pair of upper arms mounted on the seat back;
a pair of lower arms fixed to a seat cushion at both sides, with the upper arms being rotatable relative to the lower arms;

a pair of locking mechanisms restricting rotation of the upper arms relative to the lower arms;

a connecting mechanism unlocking both locking mechanisms;

an operation handle provided at one of the locking mechanisms;

the other locking mechanism being unlocked in response to operation of the operation handle through the connecting mechanism;

under the condition that the operation handle is operated to unlock one locking mechanism, the one locking mechanism, the operation handle, the connecting mechanism and the other locking mechanism are engageable with each other to operate together, and under the condition that the one side of the seat back fixed to the seat belt is more deformed by tension of the seat belt than the other side of the seat back, any engagement among the one locking mechanism, the operation handle, the connecting mechanism and the other locking mechanism is disengaged so that the one locking mechanism cannot operate together with the other locking mechanism;

wherein the connecting mechanism comprises plural link parts, and when the one side of the seat back fixed to the seat belt is more deformed by tension of the seat belt than the other side of the seat back, any engagement in the plural link parts is disengaged from each other with respect to one direction in which the link parts are operated.